

Congress and People Alone Can Prevent War

President Coolidge has spoken revealing the attitude of the administration toward Mexico and the Liberal government of Nicaragua.

This position is such that unless the American people voice an irresistible mandate for peace, or Congress acts to prevent a rupture, or the Mexican and constitutional Nicaraguan governments surrender object to American capitalism and imperialism there will be a break between these countries.

A BREAK UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IS ALMOST SURE TO MEAN EVEN-TELL WAR.

President Coolidge's statements is such as to bring the blush of shame and arouse the extreme apprehensions of all true Americans and lovers of

liberty, justice and democracy.

THEY ARE THE STATEMENTS CONSCIOUSLY OR UNCONSCIOUSLY OF AN AGENT OF AMERICAN CAPITALISM AND IMPERIALISM.

THEY EXPRESS EXACTLY THE ATTITUDE OF WALL STREET.

We are in Nicaragua, says he, to protect American lives and property and \$3,000,000 invested in the Nicaraguan canal route.

We landed marines and occupied a part of that country held by the Liberals and we disarmed the Liberals because the Liberals attacked the government recognized by us as the constitutional government of Nicaragua.

Our case against Mexico is that Mexico armed the government of Nicaragua not recognized by us.

We are determined to interfere to preserve constitutional government in Central America. We will not tolerate interference by Mexico.

WE WILL TAKE ANY STEPS NECESSARY TO PRESERVE THE REGIME IN NICARAGUA RECOGNIZED BY US AS CONSTITUTIONAL.

While President Coolidge was preparing those statements American marines were occupying a "neutral" area 60 miles wide on the eastern coast of Nicaragua for the express purpose of preventing the Liberals from dealing the revolutionaries a final blow, which would have abolished their regime. American marines were occupying the capital of Nicaragua to prevent the Liberals from doing so.

What kind of protection of life and property is this demanded by Coolidge, Kellogg and Wall Street?

They demand protection by the United States army and navy of a foreign ownership of Mexican resources that amounts to a monopoly.

They demand the sacrifice of American LIVES to protect American DOLLARS in their exploitation of MEXICAN RESOURCES.

Protection in fact to American lives and property is the sole point on which the American government is tenacious.

To "protect" American lives and property the administration will insist that properties acquired by Americans in Mexico since 1917 shall not exceed under the operation of the new Mexican laws.

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THE PRESIDENT'S HIGH AND HOLY STANDING ITS ENORMOUS RESOURCES FOR THE FINAL ECONOMIC CONQUEST OF THE PLANET.

Mexico is the first line of defense in its path. Once over that barrier it will dominate Latin America as a base for further conquests.

If the people permit this first step to be taken, America will earn the honest hatred of the whole world.

We will turn the world against us. We will place ourselves in the position of the Germany of the Kaiser and we will suffer the same fate.

True American patriotism demands the utmost effort to prevent this break with Mexico. We must act before the war-makers clamp down the lid and prevent all expression of honest opinion.

Kellogg Knowingly Supported the Unconstitutional Side in Nicaragua

Warned by Labor Men A Year Ago, Secretary Promised Not to Back Diaz Faction

The administration in Washington has known for at least a year that the Diaz faction which it made indecent haste to recognize was not only a minority, illegal, violent faction, but that it had violated recent foreign policy rules laid down by the American administration.

Conscious of such a situation, the administration has resorted to armed intervention in Nicaragua to save this lawless and violent minority at a time the majority of the Nicaraguan people were about to oust it from power.

This fact is contained in letters from a correspondence between William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, and Secretary of State Kellogg almost a year ago.

It was on Feb. 13, 1926, that President Green of the A. F. of L. wrote Kellogg that "Reports have been received by the Pan-American Federation of Labor describing extraordinary and critical conditions that prevail in Nicaragua, and they show that the people of Nicaragua have completely lost their constitutional form of government and that the dictatorship of Gen. Chamorro and his followers is in full force."

Green quoted from a letter received from the Nicaraguan labor movement, telling of the military rule maintained by Chamorro "in combination with Commanders Adolfo Diaz, Carlos Cuadra, Pazos and others." Arrests of prominent liber-

(Continued on page 3)

Indentured Child Slaves Are Found In Pennsylvania

500,000 Neglected Children in Capitalistic America, Says Secretary of Labor

Pennsylvania children are still being made the victims of the antiquated and iniquitous indenture system under which dependent minors can be bound out to work for a mere excuse.

Secretary of Labor James J. Davis, in a speech recently delivered at Reading, Pa., disclosed the fact that the ancient indenture law was not only in force but was actually being used for the enslavement of homeless children.

"Pennsylvania still has on its statute books a law whose spirit and language goes back to the England of Henry VIII," he said.

"Dependent children still may be bound out to render services in return for food, clothing, and lodging.

Shocking Conditions Prevail

"In one county of this state workers in the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor found dependent children bound under indentures which ran to 1938 and 1940.

The records show that in this county under this antiquated law no provision was made for the payment of children at the end of their period of indenture for the work they did. At least this is true of the first 25 children indentured.

"I understand that the law has been changed to read 'Such reasonable allowance as his (the master's) circumstances will permit and the usefulness of the children shall appear to make just and proper'."

"Still later a definite sum of money or clothing, or both, was specified. The sum of money was usually \$10, \$5 or sometimes only \$1."

According to Secretary Davis, Pennsylvania is shockingly neglectful of its dependent children in other ways.

"In the United States at the present time there are probably 600,000 neglected children," he said.

Nicaraguan Affair Pirates Raid, Say Yanks Down There

By Laurence Todd

WASHINGTON.—(FP)—Public re-

sents against President Coolidge's

seizure of Nicaraguan territory by

armed force and the setting up of

the militarist leader Diaz for the second

time as president in the interest of

American bankers, has registered

itself in Senate speeches.

Sen. Wheeler of Montana, leading

the protest against imperialistic vi-

lence in Latin America, read to the

Senate a number of letters and tele-

grams he had received, showing that

American bankers, with conditions

in Nicaragua, believe the present

accusation is no less than a piratical raid.

The Montana senator demanded

an immediate withdrawal of the marines

and naval vessels now blockading and occupying the Nicaraguan coast.

Wheeler read a Hearst editorial

that hailed Coolidge and Kellogg as

not only reinforcing a "Real American

Policy," and said this policy was

nothing less than a piratical raid.

Sen. Heflin of Alabama denounced

the administration for starting a war

without consent of Congress, and

said it was time the Senate stopped

the shipping of American troops into

dangerous foreign territory to protect

the speculations of adventurers who

tried to prevent us from voting a

bonus to the soldiers of their last

war, but who now demand that more

of our boys be sent out to die for

their investments."

When Sen. Shipstead of Minnesota, Farmer-Labor, member of the committee on foreign relations, said he had been unable to get information as to why the armed expedition was sent, or where it was to lead the country to, Sen. Copeland, New York Democrat, suggested that since Shipstead had been eating breakfast at the White House he ought to inquire there. Shipstead replied that he had gathered no information from the President at these meetings.

When Bingham of Connecticut claimed that the President acted in support of the Monroe Doctrine, Borch and Wheeler replied that the present intervention has nothing even remotely to do with that doctrine, which simply warns foreign powers against seizing American territory.

Heflin asserted that a "smooth propaganda" had been preparing the public mind since last July for an attack on Mexico in defense of Sinclair and the other oil men, when Mexico is seeking to separate church and state as a means of making her republican institutions secure.

Wheeler served notice that he would speak again within a few days on the legal claims of the rival presidents in Nicaragua, to prove that Coolidge and Kellogg have violated the Central American treaty and have recognized a man who has no legal claim to the office.

Rep. Huddleston, Democrat, of Alabama, in the House, warned the nation that war against Mexico was coming unless public sentiment were aroused. He said that if it came, Coolidge, Kellogg, Hearst and McClellan of the Washington Post,

has been demanding the overthrow of the Mexican government by American armed intervention, should be put in the front line of the first fighting unit.

ANNOUNCEMENT!

Dr. Laddler's Feature Department of the Appeal will contain a most timely and vital article by Robert W. Dunn on "Foreign Investments and American Imperialism" for the issue of January 22.

In the issue of January 29, an article will appear by Norman Thomas on "Militarizing America." Get in your bundle orders for these splendidly educational articles.

Demands Probe of Kellogg on Mexican Bolshevik Scare

WASHINGTON.—Secretary of State Kellogg should not continue in office if it is true, as charged, that he permitted his department to inspire the story carried by the Associated Press to the effect that "a Bolshevik hegemony" threatens in Mexico. Senator Burton K. Wheeler, Democrat, Montana, told the Senate

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RENEWALS, GIFTS, SUBS, AND PRAISES GLADDEN APPEAL

A magnificent response has followed the appeal of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party to every reader of this paper to give something to assure its life in 1927. From almost every state in the Union have come immediate responses of the most generous and promising character. Never has there been such a widespread and quick response before in the history of this paper. It augurs well for the splendid success of the present drive and the future of the Appeal.

In addition, the great flood of renewals has shown no signs of diminishing, and most encouraging of all a very large percentage of those who are renewing are sending in one, two, three and more subscribers. Many are sending in \$5 orders and better with their renewals, and are receiving the Debs photo, as the large prize winner list printed on this page shows. **IF THIS KEEPS UP LONG, THE AMERICAN APPEAL WILL JUMP INTO EFFECTIVE CIRCULATION AND INFLUENCE THIS YEAR AND WILL BE A REAL POWER IN THE CAMPAIGN OF 1928.**

Below are some of the inspiring messages with remittances. It is impossible to publish them all.

"Enclosed find my check of \$103 for the three following yearly subscriptions and subscriptions for 100 public libraries to be selected by Comrade William H. Henry. Oblige me by not mentioning my name in the Appeal with regard to above remittance."—A Comrade, Washington, D. C.

"For the following new subscriptions and renewals please send to my address one of the Debs photos. Many years ago Debs gave me two of his photos, but they were destroyed in a fire. I am anxious for another to hang above my desk alongside those of Lenin, Marx, Darwin and Lincoln."—Geo. H. Shoaf, Los Angeles, Cal.

"Here is \$2, \$1 for my renewal and one for the Sustaining Fund. The Appeal is doing great work. If only

the old veterans would take hold and help a little, why, the circulation would leap to a million for the 1928 campaign."—E. J. Beutell, Woodbridge, N. J.

"Here is my renewal. I like the Appeal very much. I also take the Milwaukee Leader and have been taking it ever since it has been printed."—Nick Harmon, Durand, Wis.

"Hurrah for the American Appeal. Let the good work go on. Let every body boost for a paper that tells the truth; that stands for real Americanism and the common people and upholds the interest of the laboring class against the parasites and thieves. Here is \$2 for enclosed subs."—Z. F. Anderson, Pukwana, S. D.

"Enclosed are 5 yearly subscription for the following. If you do not get enough money in this drive to keep the Appeal going, let me hear from you. The article under 'News and Views' in the issue of January 1 was a remarkable article. It would be good reprinted as a leaflet."—Isabel P. Snelgrove, Painesville, Ohio.

"I am offering a little help toward assuring the life of the Appeal consisting of my own renewal and a new subscriber. Your items on China, Mexico and especially on the Springfield public utilities were too good to miss."—A Comrade, Beloit, Wis.

"Here are 3 subs for the Appeal and \$5 for five yearly sub cards. Hope the Appeal will soon have a hundred thousand subs."—Henry Hellbaum, Chugwater, Wyo.

"Enclosed is my renewal. I have read the Appeal since the first copy and believe the Appeal is at present the life blood of the movement in this country. It is keeping a lot of comrades like myself awake, notwithstanding the fact that we have no S. P. in Trenton, N. J."—Morris Moyer, Trenton, N. J.

"Here is \$7.20 to cover list of subs including my own renewal, also list of prospects to which please mail sample copies. I think the Appeal, which is getting better all the time, will be the logical 'medicine' to ad-

"In this issue of the Appeal I read of your need of money to sustain the Appeal. I am going to do all I can afford to do to keep the Debs offspring in a healthy condition. The Appeal is the big thing we have to remember. Gene by. Things are looking brighter here. We now have a real fighting local of about 20 members. I am sending you a sub and a \$1 donation."—Henry Heesaker, West DePere, Wis.

"The Appeal is surely getting better. Its general news relating to the class struggle fits regular Socialist and Labor news and its propaganda news, make it irresistible. Am enclosing 8 three-month subs."—W. C. Bloyd, Canon City, Colo.

"You are doing good work. The Appeal gets better each week. Here is a dollar to help in a small way to keep it going. I hope it will be possible to locate the Broadcasting here in Syracuse. From this central location it could reach all America."—H. Heltich, Syracuse, N. Y.

"Enclosed is my renewal. I think the paper is improving and I wish you every success this coming year. I do wish you would head the paper Eugene Victor Debs, Founder."—Mrs. S. A. Deacon, San Francisco, Cal.

"PLEASE ENTER MY SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE APPEAL FOR FIVE YEARS. I WOULD NOT BE WITHOUT THE PAPER."—Henry Hellbaum, Chugwater, Wyo.

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"I wish this were \$500 instead of \$5, but every little bit helps. If all the readers would do as well as this we could sure give the Appeal a boost."—L. S. Walker, Anderson, Ind.

"Enclosed is my renewal. I am glad to note plans for a Broadcasting Memorial to Eugene Debs. Just the thing. Between the auto and the radio reading may soon become a lost art. Flash Socialism on the sky so they can read it as they fly."—Susana De Wolf, Alliance, Ohio.

"Enclosed in my renewal and \$5 on the Debs Memorial Fund. Am pleased to hear of the decision to erect a broadcasting station. Just what we need."—J. J. Deininger, Le Mars, Iowa.

"Here is my sub and an extra dollar to help in the shortage."—W. G. Loy, Minneapolis.

"Enclosed is my renewal. The cause for which Eugene V. Debs sacrificed his life must not be put in jeopardy."—

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NEWS AND VIEWS

DEBS

The decision of the National Executive Committee to make the Debs monument a broadcasting station was most wise for several reasons. The name of Debs and the purpose of the monument insure the financial success of the project. There can be no reasonable doubt but that such a project will attract enough money to make it financially possible within a reasonable short time.

A broadcasting station will not cost more than an adequate building for Debs House would cost, and a much larger building would undoubtedly be the other alternative. In view of the fact that this country is moving so rapidly toward a monopoly of broadcasting such as will shut out the real labor and democratic movement entirely from this manner of education, the prospective D E B S station is probably AS THE ONLY POSSIBLE METHOD BY WHICH THE WORKERS CAN OBTAIN A HOLD ON AIR COMMUNICATION IN AMERICA.

We cannot think of any other way by which the American Socialist movement could hope to obtain a broadcasting station under present conditions. The desire to erect a real living monument to Debs, the perfectly fitting character of such a monument as this dedicated to the preservation of a fundamental form of expression and education, will without doubt bring the means soon.

If the money is actually raised, it is almost certain, despite present difficulties, that a way will be found to obtain a broadcasting station at some central point in industrial America. Such a movement with the finances raised would carry great weight. It could create an extremely uncomfortable situation for those who would try to block its access to the air. If a license were denied D E B S by the authorities, there would remain a strong likelihood that some existing broadcasting station could be purchased. If even this could not be done, the Monumet Fund would be left to build a Debs House or some other monument and could be turned to that purpose.

The best bet is to pile up that fund for D E B S as soon as the committee starts it, and we will surely find a way to realize the project.

A Socialist City

A rare tribute is paid to the constructive and liberalizing influence of Socialism in a recent number of The Christian Science Monitor, in describing the phenomenal revival and the rapidly deepening culture of that truly Socialist city, Vienna, Austria.

"The capital of culture on the banks of the beautiful blue Danube," is the characterization of this city in the editorial. The Christian Science Monitor says among other things:

Long since has been dispelled the doubt which tourists had in western countries of an agreeable visit to "red Vienna". True that Vienna is governed by Socialists on whose placards have appeared such sentences as "Make it a red day in red Vienna". But in practice the color is hardly visible at all except in flags and

florid party statements. The city administration is exceedingly well run, and to this fact many tourists who have been there give abundant testimony. The courtesy of the policemen, the cleanliness of the streets, the unusual quiet for such a large metropolis, the profusion of flowers and shade trees along the main Ringstrasse, and the manifest desire of every last Viennese to go out of his or her way to be of service to a stranger are facts to which all who have in late years been to Vienna will bear witness.

Then follows a most enthusiastic description of a charming, well-kept, orderly, enlightened, rapidly developing Socialist city, and this concluding paragraph:

Austria has a population now of only 6,500,000, but it was once an empire of 50,000,000. The capital, however, remains today little changed really in those lasting values which the discriminating tourist seeks. The museums, libraries, theaters, buildings have remained undisturbed.

There is possibly the one exception that more is to be seen now than before the war, because certain palaces and art and manuscript collections, once closed to the general public, HAVE NOW BEEN OPENED FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL; AND FOR THIS, MUCH CREDIT MUST BE GIVEN THE SOCIALISTS for the liberalizing influence which their advent to power in 1918 has brought in Austria. Let it not be forgotten that Vienna was the worst ruined and victimized of all cities of Central Europe by the world war. It was severed from its tributary country. Its inhabitants were left to starve and to the mercy of foreign exploiters. It was portrayed like a farm. Poverty and misery became so marked that Vienna's suicide rate for that time transcended that of any modern city.

Then the collective, democratic sense of the people, enlightened by the Socialist movement, intervened and is now saving Vienna in spite of the unfavorable situation imposed upon it by the Allies. Mighty corporations, covering almost every department of life, great municipal undertakings and even city-owned enterprises, snatched Vienna from ruin and is now making it as The Christian Science Monitor says, the world's "capital of culture".

And that's the way Socialism would carry us into the better and higher civilization if the plundering and murderous rulers of the world would permit.

Our New Year Resolution

On this bright sunshiny mid-winter morning in the midst of the greatest spurt of enthusiasm and activity in the ranks of the Appeal Army since the initial outburst when Debs started the paper; while hundreds of glad and hopeful messages, hundreds of pledges for new activity and hundreds of dollars are flooding the Appeal office, the American Appeal staff, one and

all, individually and collectively, jointly and separately, has made a solemn New Year resolution.

Separately and collectively each and every one of us are hopeless of mending our little ingrained faults of omission and commission during the year of 1927. BUT WE HAVE FOUND SOMETHING TO CONTINUE THE CONTRIBUTION OF RELIEF FUNDS FOR THE FIGHTING OF THE TEXTILE STRIKERS AT PASSAIC, N. J. Mr. Thomas said:

"The strike is not over. One of the largest and severest of the smaller mills has not yet settled. In the Botany Mills, which have settled, various circumstances mean that it may take as long as a month before anything like the normal number of workers will be back on the job. Meanwhile, the very encouraging progress toward settlement has been interpreted as a complete victory and relief has almost entirely stopped coming in.

"Think what it means to thousands of workers and their children in the middle of winter, after an eleven months' strike, to be cut off from relief at this season. Hungry children cannot be fed on hope of next week's or next month's bread.

"Lovers of children, believers in the possibility of orderly progress in a great industry, comrades and sympathizers with these truly heroic workers, can render an enormous service by keeping up a steady flow of relief funds, at least for the next month. Such funds should be sent promptly. They may be directed to the Emergency Committee for Strikers' Relief, 799 Broadway, New York."

THE APPEAL STAFF, THEREFORE, MAKES THIS NEW YEAR RESOLUTION AS ITS ONLY NEW YEAR RESOLUTION: DURING 1927 EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US WILL DO HIS OR HER LEVEL BEST TO CONTINUALLY IMPROVE THE APPEAL; TO USE THE RESOURCES PLACED IN OUR HANDS BY THE ARMY IN THE WISEST MANNER POSSIBLE TO CONTINUALLY MAKE IT A BETTER AND BETTER INSTRUMENT IN THEIR HANDS.

With our limited resources, our limited space and our limited staff we have not been able to make the Appeal come nearly up to our ideal. But we have been slowly working toward our ideal, and the present enthusiasm and loyalty and magnificent response of the Army and readers making us feel that the improvement is going to be faster in 1927 than it was in 1926.

Your present spirit and activity is tonic to us. We can do so much more; we can reflect so much better tone and spirit in the paper, when you are backing us up and cheering us along like you are doing now. ARE YOU GOING TO SLUM AGAIN IN A WEEK OR TWO AND AGAIN MAKE OUR WORK MUCH HARDER AND SLOWER? DON'T DO IT. WE ARE STRIKING A SPLENDID AND MIGHTY STRIDE NOW. LET'S KEEP IT UP.

Finn Majority Backs Socialist Administration

By Adolph Salmi

According to the latest dispatches from Helsinki, Finland's new Socialist administration has stood the initial test in presenting its program to the parliament and has received the support of the majority of the votes.

After the new Socialist premier, Vaino Tanner, had presented his administrative program and the conservative-bourgeois fusion group had presented their interpellation aimed against the Socialist administration, the premier demanded that the House return to business without any further discussion on the matter.

The Socialist premier was sustained by a vote of 116 to 82 against the Socialist ministry. The Social Democrats, the Swedish bloc and the Communists voted solidly for the administration together with 20 Agrarians and a few progressive radical representatives. The vote against the Socialist administration consisted of the solid administrative-bourgeois fusion and about 25 Agrarians and 7 so-called progressives. The progressive split illustrates the confusion and general lack of principles of "progressive" parties.

The program of the Socialists which won this majority support aims at radical reforms that would fundamentally effect social conditions and would be termed revolutionary. It includes such reforms as the liberal elements are willing now to concede labor. Most important, perhaps, is one proposing complete amnesty to the participants in the civil war on the labor side, assuring safe return of all exiles and the liberation of those still in jail.

Margaret Bondfield To Speak in Chicago

Margaret Bondfield, member of the British Parliament, will be the speaker at the Chicago Forum in the Erlanger Theatre next Sunday afternoon (January 16th). Miss Bondfield is one of the outstanding leaders of the English labor party and was the only woman member of the Ramsay MacDonald's labor government in 1924. She has just been re-elected to Parliament since the general strike, one of several cases where the present government has been defeated in by-elections.

Miss Bondfield's subject will be "What Price Labor". The meeting is included in the program of the Chicago Federation of Churches for "Church and Industry Week."

The industry was 93.7c compared with 93.4c in 1924. Their average weekly earnings rose from \$41.15 to \$41.51 in the 2-year period. For women workers the hourly averages were 54.4c in 1924 and 64.8c in 1926, while the weekly average rose from \$23.94 to \$24.24.

These figures must be combined with others showing the average annual employment in the industry to obtain a fair picture of the earnings of these workers. The clothing industry is highly seasonal. Its employees are fortunate to secure steady work 40 weeks in the year.

This would bring the average yearly wage in this largely organized, skilled section of workers down to about \$1,330. This is less than the government agencies and capitalistic investigation bodies set as a decent, comfortable and healthy minimum income for an average family.

The minimum yearly income needed by a family of 5 was given by Miss Ida S. Lindman, food specialist and home economist, in a recent speech before the Farm Bureau Federation, at

The average hourly wage of men in \$1,434.

Norman Thomas Asks Help For Passaic Strike

Norman Thomas, chairman of the Emergency Committee for Strikers' Relief, has made an appeal for continued contribution of relief funds for the families of the textile strikers at Passaic, N. J. Mr. Thomas said:

"The strike is not over. One of the largest and severest of the smaller mills has not yet settled. In the Botany Mills, which have settled, various circumstances mean that it may take as long as a month before anything like the normal number of workers will be back on the job. Meanwhile, the very encouraging progress toward settlement has been interpreted as a complete victory and relief has almost entirely stopped coming in.

"Think what it means to thousands of workers and their children in the middle of winter, after an eleven months' strike, to be cut off from relief at this season. Hungry children cannot be fed on hope of next week's or next month's bread.

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APPEAL'S FEATURE DEPARTMENT

Harry W. Laidler, Editor

Shameful Record of Our Government in Nicaragua

By Dr. Albert H. Putney

(Attorney at Law and Director, School of Political Science, American University. From an address at the Conference on American Concessions, Abbot Ralston Hotel, Washington, D. C., Dec. 11.)

The conflict between the parties in Nicaragua primarily rests on the question of United States concessions. That country, in supporting the conservative government, the United States is not protecting the legitimate rights of investors of this country, but is assisting such investors in their efforts to retain control of properties which they have already sold and received their money for.

The Liberal Party, when it came into power a few years ago attempted to remove the hardships arising from the control by investors of this country of the leading bank and railroad in Nicaragua by the very method of buying out the interests of such investors at a price which gave a good profit. A bargain was fairly entered into on both sides and the money paid.

It is now charged by the representatives of the Constitutional government of Nicaragua that these investors attempted to retain control of the companies which they had sold, and were assisted in such efforts by certain officials in the State Department. Finally it charged that the Chamorro rebellion was instigated in New York City.

The constant references by the State Department to the Saca government in Nicaragua gives a very erroneous view of the situation in that country. The title of Saca to the presidency under the Constitution of Nicaragua is as clear as that of President Coolidge under the Constitution

of the United States. In 1921 Dr. Saca was elected Vice-President of Nicaragua for the term of four years. Because of the frost and fairs, elections ever held in that country, and the resignation of the President raised Dr. Saca to that office. No fair minded observer can doubt that he is the choice of the great majority of the inhabitants of Nicaragua; the conservative Party, the party of Chamorro and Diaz, has not won an election in Nicaragua for forty years, except when assisted by United States marines. Honorable Elihu Root, who is one man in the United States whom no one has ever accused of being "red" or even "pink" in a letter written while he was in the United States Senate said that the Liberal Party constituted three-fourths of the inhabitants of the country.

The claim of Diaz to the Presidency rests upon an alleged election to that office by Congress. There are two vital objections to this claim—the body holding the alleged election was not the legal congress of Nicaragua, and even the legal congress would have had no authority to make such an election. The revolutionary forces under General Chamorro expelled the Liberal members of Congress, who together with the anti-Chamorro conservatives constituted a majority of that body, and filled up the vacancies with conservatives without a vestige of title to such position. Even the legal congress could not have elected a president as there was no vacancy in that office. The illegal congress attempted to create such a vacancy by a vote of impeachment and removal from office against Saca, but the power to remove from office on impeachment, in Nicaragua is vested in the Supreme Court, and not in Congress.

shall have preferential rights for exploitation concessions. (c) That in all other cases the subsoil, since it is the property of the nation and not the surface-holder, shall be exploited by concessions to the party most fit and most willing to abide by the Mexican laws.

Furthermore, as most of the oil lands are in the frontier zones (one hundred kilometers from frontiers; fifty kilometers from sea-coast), they also become subject to the law regarding landholding by foreigners in these zones. This law states: (a) That these lands may be held by the present foreign companies during the incorporated life of the company, or the life of the individual, at the termination of which periods, five years are granted to transfer them to Mexican companies (fifty-one percent of the stockholders Mexican) or to Mexican citizens. This does not prevent foreign oil companies or foreign oil producers from holding all the land, wharves, pipelines, etc., in the restricted zones, which are directly necessary for extracting and refining the petroleum.

V. Who are attacking Mexico?

The large petroleum companies, many of whom acquired their properties in violation of the Mexican law, through murder, chicanery, and graft; many of whom to this day do not hold clear titles, and who have for nearly a decade had a gentleman's agreement not to contest each other's titles. These companies are, even today, less regulated than in the United States, and in many cases pay less taxes. Taken in the large, they have recovered in profits all of their original investments. The present law puts no obstacle in the way of their extracting the oil if they are sincerely anxious to do so; no well lasts more than thirty years; and the companies have had a hundred years in which to work; in addition, the Mexican Government has indicated its willingness to grant fair treatment at the expiration of that period.

VI. What is the attitude of our State Department?

The State Department declares that Mexico shall not have the right to pass its own laws, hence is not a sovereign government. It desires that Americans and American companies be placed in a more privileged position than Mexicans and Mexican companies.

Towards release from Clerical domination, the constitution reiterated the provisions of the 1857 constitution and in addition, made all churches the property of the nation and facilitated primary education, hospitals, orphanages, charitable institutions, etc.

III. What has the present government done for the Mexican people?

It has attempted to enforce rigorously the enlightened provisions of the constitution. This has brought it into sharp conflict with the Church and foreign capital. It has extended education, creating four thousand new rural schools; and numerous new agricultural schools. It has promoted rural credits, cooperation, and farm-extension work. During the Calles administration has occurred the founding of the National Peasant League with three hundred thousand dues-paying members in eleven states.

IV. Why is there an oil conflict?

Because the Government has attempted to enforce the subsoil provisions of the constitution. This conflict began in Carranza's time over taxes. The State Department sent a note to the Mexican Government stating that certain taxes "violated the constitution". At that time the United States Government was receiving more in the way of taxes (if the income tax be included) on Mexican oil than was the Mexican Government. The conflict came to a head under the present administration when the new law putting the constitution into effect was passed by the Legislative Power. The United States Government declared this law to be retroactive. It provides, to that in the case of property acquired before 1917 for oil purposes, the companies must take out a fifty-year concession (renewable for a second term of fifty years) for the drilling of oil on their properties. (b) That in the case of properties acquired since 1917 for oil purposes, the holder

of the national property would be repudiated when constitutional government was restored.

It is significant that New York capitalists obtained 51 per cent of the state-owned bank (several weeks ago).

Kellogg replied on Feb. 20, that "Acting in accordance with its well-known policy, not to extend recognition to new governments in Central America which come into power through unconstitutional or violent means, the United States Government has not recognized and will not recognize the regime headed by Gen. Chamorro." The Department has not been advised of any combination between financial elements in the United States and Gen. Chamorro looking to the negotiations which you describe. However, any American interests entering into contracts or new business transactions with the Chamorro regime must set upon their own responsibility and at their own risk as they could not expect diplomatic support from this Government in case of difficulties.

When he got around to recognize Chamorro's lieutenant, Diaz, while Chamorro remains at the head of the army, Kellogg was reminded of this correspondence. He could not remember it. But President Pineda of the Guatemala Federation of Labor remembered, and cabled Green a reminder that "Adolfo Diaz is against labor" and was the directing brain with Chamorro in the military plot of last year. Pineda urged Green to "again make representations" that the workers of Central America "unanimously reject" Diaz.

Y. P. S. L. Is Doing Great Work

By William H. Henry

(National Secretary, Socialist Party)

The Y. P. S. L. of the New England District has just published a 5th Anniversary Review, giving the activity of their work during the last five years in that district, and it is a very fine piece of work, to be sure.

These young comrades have been doing work that should be done in all sections of the nation and we hope to encourage the fathers and mothers in the Socialist movement to encourage their youngsters to get in touch with the Y. P. S. L.

The publication, giving a history of the work done by these young comrades, is one of the fine pieces of work that has come from the printing press for some time and we suggest that our readers write the district Secretary for a copy, enclosing

not less than thirty-five cents (fifty cents or a dollar would be better) and asking for a copy. They show it to the young people and let them get in touch with the movement of our young comrades. Write Esther Levenson, 21 Essex St., Boston, Mass.

Sunday January 23rd, Margaret Bondfield, former president of the British Trade Union Congress, will speak at the Old South Forum in Boston at 3:00 p. m. On Sunday January 30th, Arthur Ponsonby, one of Ramsay MacDonald's cabinet members, will speak on anti-war agitation at Symphony Hall, Boston, at 11 a. m.

Sunday January 30th, Morris Hillquit speaks at the Y. M. H. A., corner Seaver and Humboldt streets, on "The Changing Social Order," at 8 p. m.

When you say the people have no voice, you fall into the trap of the masters who wish to destroy democracy.

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When you say the people have no voice, you fall into the trap

False Red Scare to Injure Mexico Fully Exposed

Magnificent Record of Democratic, Peaceful Government Revealed by Industrial Democracy League

A Committee of the League for Industrial Democracy during the week sent a vigorous letter to Secretary of State Kellogg protesting against the accusation of the State Department that the Mexican government is engaged in Bolshevik activities as an excuse for their action in Nicaragua. The letter recites the constructive work of the Calles administration and the matters of education, banking, budgeting, irrigation, land reform and conservation and tells of the opposition between this administration and the International Communist movement.

The letter is signed by Dr. Harry W. Laidler, author and Executive Director of the League, who has recently visited Mexico and Captain Paxton Hibben. Captain Hibben was a Secretary of the American Embassy in Mexico 1906-1908 inclusive and in the diplomatic service in both Colombia and Chile. The letter reads as follows:

To the Honorable Frank Kellogg,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The Board of Directors of the League for Industrial Democracy has instructed us to send to you our protest against the State Department's repeated insinuations that the Mexican government is engaged in Bolshevik propaganda, and that the United States must therefore support the Diaz administration in Nicaragua in order to prevent Mexico from pushing a Bolshevik wedge between this country and the Panama Canal.

As a result of a careful study of the Mexican situation and of personal observation in Mexico, we have become convinced of the utter falsity of the charge of Bolshevism on the part of the Mexican government—a charge which can only be intended to create bitter prejudice against Mexico and cloud the real issues in the situation.

If the charge of Bolshevism has any meaning whatever, it means that the Government is affiliated with the Communist International or is com-

mitted to the Communist point of view. By any test you might apply, the Calles administration is not Bolshevik. Neither President Calles or any group with which he is connected has any affiliation whatsoever with the International Communist movement. The Mexican Confederation of Labor, and the Mexican Labor party, the most liberal wing of President Calles' active supporters, have no connection whatever with the communist movement. In fact the Mexican Confederation of Labor is a member of the Pan American Federation of Labor, of which the American Federation of Labor is the leading member and in its last convention in Mexico City, presided over by Samuel Gompers, vigorously protested against the communist attempt to interfere with the labor movement of other countries.

Two years ago the Mexican Confederation of Labor definitely refused to seat in its convention delegates who represented the communist point of view and President Calles has caused a number of communist propagandists to leave the country. The small group of communists in Mexico are severe critics of the Calles go-

vernment because of its anti-communist attitude. Indeed the government can only be regarded as socialist by a broad interpretation of that word.

The present administration in Mexico has presented a record of distinctly constructive achievements.

1. It has extended the educational system, creating some 4000 new rural schools and numerous new agricultural colleges.

2. It has enforced a program of economy in government departments in an attempt to balance the budget and to pay its foreign obligations.

3. It has established a Mexican bank of issue in an endeavor to stabilize the currency of the country, and to reduce the interest charges on loans.

4. It has begun a number of extensive irrigation projects. In March of this year, for instance, J. G. White Engineering Corporation announced a contract with the Mexican government to construct \$20,000,000 irrigation projects.

5. It has, with the administration of President Obregon, done much to eliminate banditry and restore order. The Executive Director of the League

for Industrial Democracy, during his stay in Mexico, saw bank messengers go from bank to bank with bags of money over the shoulders, apparently unprotected and unmolested.

6. It has continued the policy of breaking up the large estates in Mexico, many of which were built up from communal land illegally taken from village communities—and of distributing them among the peasants. Many students of political economy maintain that such a system of small land holdings, far from being radical, is a conservative policy and results in building up a conservative class of farmers; that centralization of land in a few hands, on the other hand, leads to great discontent and revolution.

7. It has attempted to enforce a number of provisions of the labor section of the 1917 constitution, provisions which the American Federation of Labor would, for the most part, heartily approve.

8. Its most radical measure has been its attempt to carry out the subsoil provisions of the 1917 constitution which are in line with the old principles established during the

days of the Spanish regime, and in line with the provisions of the Constitution of 1857 and the Constitution of 1917.

These laws are not confiscatory. They state that in the case of properties acquired before 1917 for oil purposes, the companies must take out a fifty years concession renewable for a second fifty years for the drilling of oil on their properties; that in the case of properties acquired since 1917 for oil purposes, the holder shall have preferential rights for exploitation concessions; that in all other cases the subsoil, since it is the property of the nation and not the surface-holder, shall be exploited by concessions to the party most fit and most willing to abide by the Mexican laws.

In the case of lands near the frontier which are held by foreign companies, the law permits them to be held during the incorporated life of the company or the life of the individual, at the termination of which periods five years are granted to transfer them to Mexican companies

(fifty-one percent of the stockholders

Mexican) or to Mexican citizens. This does not prevent foreign oil companies from holding all the land, marines, pipe-lines, etc., in the restricted zones, which are directly necessary for extracting and refining the petroleum.

The present law puts no obstacle in the way of extracting the oil; the corporations are sincerely anxious to do so; no well lasts more than thirty years; and the companies have indicated their willingness to grant fair treatment at the expiration of that period. Whatever one thinks of these measures, they cannot be described as Bolshevism.

In view of these and other facts, it is not ingenious to call an administration which is doing the only thing that can be done to develop a stable and prosperous country, Bolshevik?

We are, Sir.

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) Harry W. Laidler
Paxton Hibben
For Committee.

The Appeal Replies to Mr. Job's Attack on Socialist Farm Program

Last week's Appeal contains an article by James H. Job, who claims to be a dirt farmer in which exception is taken to an article by John M. Work outlining some practical steps Socialists would take to help the farmer, if elected to power.

The Appeal regards many of Mr. Job's statements as misleading.

He states that the public ownership of the railroads, as proposed by Socialists, "presupposes that we farmers are to continue to be blind competitors in both the field of production and the world markets".

The Socialist program presupposes nothing of the kind. The Socialist program presupposes the lifting of agriculture through democratic organization, out of blind competition in production and the world markets as rapidly as possible.

If Mr. Job has been a Socialist for many years until recently, as he claims, he must have changed because he forgot the fundamental thing Socialism seeks to abolish and the fundamental thing it seeks to establish.

Socialism primarily seeks to abolish "blind competition between producers and in the world market". Primarily it seeks to substitute for competition and monopoly democratic organization and cooperation.

A Socialist administration having acquired public possession of the railroads and basic industries would take any steps that are necessary and beneficial to save the farmers from blind competition and to see that they realize the benefits of democratic public ownership.

Mr. Job next says that the public ownership of the trusts would not benefit the farmers because "the farmers would have to pay for farm implements, and in fact, all trust-made products would be determined by the wages of proletarian labor would receive, as the employees in all industries would be in a position to fix their own wages".

When I think of the present private monopoly system; its terrible extortions; how in particular it gouges the farmers, and the present big part profit, rent and interest have in boosting prices, and the relatively much smaller part wages have in the determination of prices, I am not only amazed that a farmer would take this stand, but doubly amazed that a farmer who says he has been a Socialist would make such a rash statement. Mr. Job, you surely never could have read a Socialist book or paper or listened to a Socialist speech intelligently.

Mr. Job, a self-styled dirt farmer and a worker puts himself in the

absurd position of opposing the only present capitalist system which will fix a price on all farm products determined by the cost of production. He loves this plan because he believes that it is practical and immediate.

As far as I am concerned, I would like to see the farmers of the United States get just the kind of legislation they want in this regard. As long as the trusts fatten on such legislation; as long as other classes of owners are gouging to the limit, I would like to see matters evened up, if that is possible. Such legislation will hasten the end of the present system. It will sharpen the issue between the farmer and the industrial and financial owners. I believe the farmers will have to go through this phase before they learn that ARTIFICIAL PRICE-FIXING BY SPECIAL INTERESTS only accentuates the evils of the present system and that DEMOCRATIC CONTROL AND CO-OPERATION AND THE SALE OF ALL COMMODITIES AND SERVICES AT COST ARE THE ONLY THINGS THAT WILL BRING PERMANENT RELIEF AND UNIVERSAL PROSPERITY.

Mr. Job believes he is practical because he is after something immediate, but he is impractical in the most fundamental way. He is impractical because he believes that the farmers who are already reduced to serfdom under the capitalist system will be permitted by those who are in industrial and political control of the farmers to pass legislation that will lessen their hold or reduce the profits they gouge from the farmers. The kind of legislation the farmers will finally get; under this system will be harmless to the big interests, and therefore useless to the

farmers.

Mr. Job goes right on down the line in denouncing the plan to restore the whole people to their priceless heritage in our industrial and financial institutions. He says that the benefits to be derived from the public ownership of the banks "would be negligible, for the simple reason that the farmers no longer have a share in the ownership, control and benefits of the trusts, because they are afraid the workers in these industries might prosper."

THE FARMER CANNOT GET LAWS OR RELIEF THAT WILL BE FUNDAMENTAL AND PERMANENTLY BENEFICIAL WHILE STILL REMAINING INDUSTRIAL AND POLITICAL UNDERLINGS IN THE PRESENT SYSTEM.

THE ONLY PERMANENT REMEDY IS THE BASIC SOCIALIST PROPOSAL—THE TRANSFERENCE OF THE CONTROL OF THE SYSTEM TO THE ACTUAL AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCERS, WHEN THE AGREERS AND OTHER WORKERS ESTABLISH POLITICAL AND INDUSTRIAL CONTROL OVER THE SYSTEM THEY CAN MUTUALLY ESTABLISH THE CONDITIONS THAT BEST SERVE THEIR INTERESTS AND THEY CANNOT DO THIS UNTIL THEY GAIN SUCH CONTROL.

Jessie Stephen,
British Laborite,
To Tour Country



Miss Jessie Stephen

Miss Jessie Stephen, who begins a lecture tour of this country for the Socialist Party beginning March 1, is probably one of the more interesting of the young women in the British Labor movement. She is the Honorary General Secretary of the Domestic and Hotel Workers' Union of Great Britain, a position she has held for many years. Indeed she began to organize this down-trodden and badly paid class of workers when she was only seventeen years of age and for her temerity was promptly dismissed from her place.

For three months she sought work in her native town of Glasgow but wherever she appeared she was informed that agitators were not welcome in 2 households of the thoroughly comfortable as the English comrades call their petty bourgeoisie.

She fared forth to London and immediately became active in the promotion of the Domestic and Hotel Workers' Union there.

She has served as cook, maid-of-all-work, table maid, and hotel worker. More interesting still she has actually served in a common "doss" house where the charges for a bed were only sixpence a night and tells of some very laughable experiences she had there. For the first time she learned of a new class of society, the casual laborer and hobo.

She was one time organizer for the National Federation of Women Workers. During one period of eighteen months she managed to force from employers payments amounting in all to close on two million dollars.

She was in Bermondsey Borough Council, London, six years, and three years on the Board of Guardians which looks after the poor and destitute.

She has had the experience of running as candidate in this division of London which comprises Mayfair and Buckingham Palace, the home of the King and Queen of England, coming out of the contest defeated but with a surprisingly large vote.

She was one time organizer for the National Federation of Women Workers. During one period of eighteen months she managed to force from employers payments amounting in all to close on two million dollars.

Used False Labels

In order to cover the transaction, false labels were used by the German agents. They referred to the German war department by the letters S. G. (Sonder Gruppe, special group). Instead of naming Dessau, the home office of the Junkers firm, they named Leipzig. Battle planes were called "aces".

Difficulties arose soon after the contract had been closed, the Guardian commented. This was partly due to the who took nothing for granted, insisted upon positive results. Partly trouble was due to the fact that the funds promised by the German war department were not delivered to the Junkers firm as promptly as promised.

This firm finally became alarmed when it found out that the German war department had made similar contracts with other German armament firms for the production of war materials in Russia.

Nevertheless the deal was ratified by the Russian government in February, 1923. According to the Junkers firm undertook to build 100 airplanes in Moscow. The German war department paid for the cost of building the factory, shipping the materials, paying the technical experts and manufacturing the planes. The plan was to have the Junkers firm produce 300 airplanes per year, the greater part of which were to be shipped to Germany.

The Junkers firm, however, continued to balk, because it considered the enterprise bad business. Civil aviation was making great progress and paying much better for the future than the manufacture of battleplanes, on which it had to concentrate in

order to repay for their trouble in organizing meetings.

The price is \$25 flat. Send in your dates N.Y.O.W. Tour starts March 1st in the West and we must know who wants a real good meeting. Send dates to National headquarters.

come of \$10,000 a year, equivalent to 6 times the annual wages of mechanician in railroad shops.

The inheritance tax law allows a deduction of \$50,000 from each estate before the tax is applied, also certain other deductions, including insurance exemption, charitable bequests, etc. After these deductions only 10,642 estates were liable to the tax and only 4054 were taxed on a net value of as much as \$50,000.

Of these, 244 estates had a net value of more than \$1,000,000. While they represented only 1.7 per cent of the total number, they represented

30 per cent of the wealth.

In the fall of 1926 the Junkers firm

suddenly learned that the German war department had ordered 100 Fokker planes from a firm in Holland. The firm demanded a show-down, but the German war department set its doubts at rest by asserting that it had 70,000,000 gold marks available for these purposes.

Made Another Contract.

On May 5, 1924, a new contract was signed by the German war department, the Junkers firm and the Russian Soviet government. The production of battleplanes by the Russian Junkers firm plant was continued, although the firm insisted that it did not pay well enough. Under the old contract, the firm had received 4,000,000 gold marks. Under the new contract, it received 8,000,000.

The firm was advised to raise 12,000,000 more by a loan, and the German war department assisted with various irregular credits during 1924-25. But the firm finally concluded to quit and offered to submit its claims for damages to a board of experts.

Gen. Von Seect refused on November 26, 1924, to accept this proposal, declaring that it was contrary to military and political interests of the state. The general denied that the firm had any claim to damages.

The Junkers' firm could not appeal to the courts without giving the whole affair away, and had to pocket its losses, the Guardian concludes.

As the German War Department refused to come through with any financial assistance for the liquidation of the Russian enterprise, the Junkers firm had to lay off its employees in Europe and throughout Germany. Had the plot completely succeeded, Communist guns would have been used to lay low the workers of Germany and force them into a slavery as horrible as that under Mussolini in Italy. Enough said.

LONDON.—Continuing its disclosures of secret military deals between German Monarchs in the war department of the German republic and the Moscow government, the Manchester Guardian reports that in December, 1921, two agents of the Junkers' airplane firm and two agents of the German war department submitted to the Moscow government a contract for the creation of German war industry on Russian soil, to be financed by the German war department with an initial capital of 21,000,000 gold marks.

The German war department used pressure on the Junkers' firm to this end, on the ground that it was the patriotic duty of the business to help the war department. The four German agents had false passports for their entry into Russia.

The Russian Communist government showed great willingness to make the deal, relations between Poland and Russia being strained at that time.

Used False Labels

In order to cover the transaction, false labels were used by the German agents. They referred to the German war department by the letters S. G. (Sonder Gruppe, special group). Instead of naming Dessau, the home office of the Junkers firm, they named Leipzig. Battle planes were called "aces".

Difficulties arose soon after the contract had been closed, the Guardian commented. This was partly due to the who took nothing for granted, insisted upon positive results. Partly trouble was due to the fact that the funds promised by the German war department were not delivered to the Junkers firm as promptly as promised.

This firm finally became alarmed when it found out that the German war department had made similar contracts with other German armament firms for the production of war materials in Russia.

Nevertheless the deal was ratified by the Russian government in February, 1923. According to the Junkers firm undertook to build 100 airplanes in Moscow. The German war department paid for the cost of building the factory, shipping the materials, paying the technical experts and manufacturing the planes. The plan was to have the Junkers firm produce 300 airplanes per year, the greater part of which were to be shipped to Germany.

The Junkers firm, however, continued to balk, because it considered the enterprise bad business. Civil aviation was making great progress and paying much better for the future than the manufacture of battleplanes, on which it had to concentrate in

through the capitalist system.

Why, Mr. Worker, do you go to war for the benefit of the other fellow? That is what you have always done, for you have gained nothing in slaughtering your fellow man. When you become class-conscious, and refuse to slay your brothers just because your master tells you to, then will the end of war begin to appear.

For the great majority of your masters, who are the only beneficiaries of war, are moral cowards, and will not fight, even to bolster up the capitalist system.

The cause of war is the system of production and distribution of the necessities of life. This fact is known to every Socialist, and the point is common to each of them. They have long striven to give their knowledge to the workers of the world, but handicapped financially and otherwise, they have not succeeded very largely in their most laudable undertaking.

Industrial masters must be assured of profits, before they risk their capital in means of employment of workers; and there are profiteers, whose plans of operation do not come within the meaning of the term: "Industrial Masters," whose influence extends all through the capitalist system, itself.

But the paramount fact for you to constantly bear in mind, Mr. Worker, is this: that your wages are so small, when compared with the prices of commodities, that you are really

being captured by its competitors. In fact, the failure of the Russian enterprise was the main cause of the firm's bankruptcy, which at the time created such a sensation and seemed inexplicable.

The final benefits of this enterprise went to the Moscow government. It got a fine factory and equipment for the manufacture of battle-planes for